INSIST ON
Bartlett-Bacon bills being passed. Insist on knowing where your Representatives in Congress stand. You have a right to know.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter, September 10, 1912, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

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Your United States Senator[s] and Representatives declar[ing] themselves on the Bart[-] lett-Bacon bills. You hav[e] a right to know.

VOL. 3. NO. 38 WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1913. WHOLE NO. 142

LABOR DEMONSTRATION.

Philadelphia, Dec. 20.—With the forces of labor represented at the city hall recently, the select council reversed its attitude of indifference to popular opinion and adopted unanimously a resolution calling for the appointment of a commission to make an effort to settle the Garment Workers' strike. This action was essentially a victory for the Garment Workers, who have been fighting for arbitration. More than that—it was a triumph for organized labor in Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Central Labor Union called upon all the organized labor workers in this city to peacefully assemble on the north plaza of the city hall to publicly demand by their presence immediate action by the select council upon the resolution adopted by the common council, calling for the appointment of a committee for the purpose of making an effort to bring about a settlement of the strike of the cloak and skirt makers of the city. A very large number of people assembled at the appointed time and were addressed by a number of labor men. A committee of twenty-five presented an argument why the select council should pass the resolution. The appointment of a committee is called for in the resolution to take such testimony as it shall desire and to call for witnesses, papers, books, and other information dealing with the strike. It is hoped by this means to bring about an adjustment of the present difficulty.

MASSACHUSETTS' UNEMPLOYED.

Boston, Dec. 20.—For the quarter ending September 30, 1913, complete returns relative to unemployment were received from 1,069 labor organizations in Massachusetts, with an aggregate membership of 177,267, or somewhat over 70 per cent of the entire trade union membership in the commonwealth. Of this number, 6.8 per cent were reported as unemployed. The percentage of unemployed on account of strikes or lock-outs was 0.6 per cent at the close of the quarter, as compared with 0.7 per cent for the close of the previous quarter, and with 0.3 per cent on September 30, 1912. In the building trades, which comprise 12.3 per cent of the aggregate membership reported, the percentage of unemployed on September 30, 1913, was 9.2 per cent, as compared with 7.9 per cent on June 30, 1913, and 2.5 per cent on September 30, 1912. In the boot and shoe manufacturing industry, comprising 18.7 per cent of the aggregate membership reporting, 6.2 per cent of the organized employes were reported as unemployed on September 30, 1913. In the textile industry, comprising 15 per cent of the aggregate membership reporting, 1.3 per cent of the organized employes represented in the returns were reported as unemployed on September 30, 1913.

CORPORATION GUN MEN.

Indianapolis, Dec. 20.—Testimony being adduced before the public service commission in some instances shows to what desperate lengths corporations oftentimes go to carry their point. The public service commission is holding hearings for the purpose of settling the differences which exist between the Indianapolis Traction and Terminal Company and its motormen and conductors, which caused the recent serious strike. One of the witnesses, declared under oath, that while employed as a motorman for the street car company he had been summoned before the superintendent and ordered to report to the assistant superintendent, and then again ordered to report to an inspector, the latter having assigned him to duty "protecting" company employes at $3 a day and $1 extra, which the witness stated, was understood to be "booze money." The witness, while giving this testimony, pulled out a 38-caliber revolver from his pocket, stating that he had been given this weapon by one of the chief company sluggers.

CURTAILING PRISON LABOR.

Des Moines, Dec. 20.—The Iowa State Board of Prison Control has notified the officers of the State Federation of Labor that the Board is in sympathy with the stand of the Federation on the convict labor question and will endeavor so far as it can consistently to comply with the requests of the state labor body in relation to this subject. The board expresses its gratification that the two bodies were able to arrive at an amicable understanding, and says that it is the hope of the board that in a year or two all matters can be so adjusted that the labor bodies will have no cause for complaint concerning the employment of convict labor of the state. This understanding is the result of a recent conference between members of the board of control and members of the executive board of the State Federation.

MORE PAY FOR CLERKS.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Increased salaries for all government employes in Washington and elsewhere is called for in a bill introduced in the house by Representative Fowler. The proposition is that all employes now receiving less than $400 a year shall be granted increases of 25 per cent; those receiving less than $600 an increase of 20 per cent; for those receiving less than $700 an increase of 16 2-3 per cent; for those receiving less than $800 an increase of 12½ per cent, and for those receiving $900 an increase of 10 per cent.

INVESTIGATION URGED.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The House Rules Committee held a hearing on the resolutions introduced by Representative Keating of Colorado, and MacDonald of Michigan, the former calling for an investigation of the Colorado coal miners' strike and the latter urging a similar investigation of the strike in the copper regions of Michigan. The resolutions direct that the investigations be made by the House Labor Committee. The two Congressmen urged the reporting of a rule to consider the resolutions, and the A. F. of L. and the organizations involved were also represented.

BURNS GETS SWAG.

Sacramento, Dec. 20.—A long controversy has been ended by the State Collector issuing a check payable to Detective William Burns for $10,000 in payment of the reward offered for the capture of John J. and James B. McNamara. A Los Angeles detective made an unsuccessful attempt to secure this money, claiming he was in large measure responsible for the apprehension of the McNamaras.

WAITERS STRIKE.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 20.—The union waiters in two of the large hotels are on strike, their demands for an increase in wages and improved working conditions having been refused. The increase demanded is $5 per month. There is likelihood that the strike may be extended should not a settlement be reached at an early date.

IMMIGRATION BILL REPORTED.

Washington, Dec. 20.—By an overwhelming majority the House Committee on Immigration on December 15 voted to report favorably the Burnett Immigration Bill in practically the same form as the similarly named measure which passed the Sixty-second Congress only to be vetoed by President Taft. The reason assigned for the veto was the literacy test for incoming aliens. The paragraph providing for the literacy test has been retained in the bill in practically the same form as in its predecessor. Additions, however, have been made to the bill, providing for the deportation of "any alien who at any time within three years after entering shall be found in the United States advocating or teaching the unlawful destruction of property." Another paragraph provides that "deportation shall be the lot of those who at any time within three years after entry shall be found advocating or teaching the overthrow of organized government or the assassination of any public official." While there were efforts to incorporate a provision excluding the Asiatics, the committee concluded to leave this feature to the general provisions of the bill relative to the requirements for naturalization. It is stated that the question relating to the immigration of Asiatics will be taken up specifically with the State Department.

DISCUSSES COAL STRIKE.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Upon the return of Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Labor, from his Western trip he had a conference with President Wilson. A discussion was had relative to the Colorado coal strike situation. Secretary Wilson stopped in Colorado on his way from the coast and made some investigations and also endeavored to bring about a settlement of the controversy, but was not successful. It is understood that he laid the entire case before the President, who has been taking a keen interest in the Colorado trouble, and who has expressed himself as being desirous of giving whatever assistance he can in the interest of a settlement. The Department of Justice is looking over the indictments against the Colorado strikers, together with the evidence on which the federal grand jury acted in returning indictments against a number of coal miners, as well as the officials of the United Mine Workers. There seems to be a general opinion that these indictments by the Colorado federal jury are somewhat far-fetched in that the fact that the men are organized and are on strike not being an act that could be construed as a conspiracy in restraint of trade.

TROUBLE SETTLED.

Schenectady, Dec. 20.—The differences between the General Electric Company and its employes have just been adjusted to the satisfaction of all concerned. It will be remembered that the strike revolved around the laying off of two employes who were active in union affairs. These two employes are to be returned to work. In a statement issued by the press committee of the employes, it is stated: "We have given a pledge that such employes as remained at work shall be subjected to no annoyance of any sort, and that every effort shall be made to maintain cordial and loyal relations with the company. In return, the company agrees that there shall be no discrimination against any of its employes on account of their participation in the strike." The company also agreed to place all employes who went on strike back in the institution and at work within a week after the settlement was accepted by the employes.

MERCHANTS REGRET ACTION.

Indianapolis, Dec. 20.—The merchants who so readily lent their influence to form the Merchants' Association, the object of which was to antagonize organized labor, are now regretting the action which they took. These merchants did not realize that the organized laboring people of this city are large purchasers of goods, but they are beginning to realize that there is one right which every workman has, and that is he can bestow his patronage wherever he sees fit. The merchants who took the opportunity of expressing their hostility to the union men by supporting the Merchants' Association have been given wide publicity in the newspapers, and the union men have been made fully aware of the personnel of the merchants who want to destroy them and are exercising their right to patronize or not to patronize at their own sweet will.

TEAMSTERS SETTLEMENT.

Indianapolis, Dec. 20.—Notwithstanding the nervous efforts of the Commercial Vehicle Protective Association, which is practically a blacklisting and union busting organization, the teamsters strike has practically been won. The methods of the employers' association have been exposed to the point of showing its system of operation. Over 400 concerns, including moving vans and transfer, ice and coal teamsters, commission houses, packing houses, taxicab companies, and other concerns, have signed an agreement with the Teamsters' Union granting a new scale of wages and also agreeing to employ only members of the Teamsters' Union. A large number of the men, formerly on strike, have returned to work.

A LARGE INDEMNITY.

Superior, Wis., Dec. 20.—One of the largest settlements ever made for a railroad accident has just been made by the Allouez Bay Dock Company with Konnard Hill. Hill is a laborer, and lost his left arm and leg in a train collision on the dock in August, the accident also resulting in the death of two men, injury of five others, and a strike among the laborers, which lasted several weeks. The amount of the settlement with Hill was $18,750. The case had been scheduled for trial, but the company, through its attorney, succeeded in settling the case outside of the court.

TO OWN MAIL CARS.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The House Committee on Postoffices and Post roads has voted to recommend an appropriation of $100,000 to enable the Postmaster General to experiment with government owned railway mail cars to supplant the rented equipment now used in the transportation of railway mail. If the experiment is found to be economical for the government, the committee has expressed a willingness to recommend an appropriation for the purpose of supplying sufficient railway mail cars to conduct the business of the government.

HONORED.

St. Paul, Dec. 20.—E. G. Hall, President of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, who was appointed by Gov. Eberhart as a member of his efficiency and economy commission, at a meeting held recently was chosen as a member of a committee to investigate state departments relating to commerce, transportation, trade and labor.

LAW RESULTING IN MUCH GOOD.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 20.—The complaints of hardships that come to the state commissioner of labor with regard to the enforcement of the new women's labor law are inconsequental compared to the gratification expressed and the good done by limiting the working hours of women. So far the law has not been enforced with regard to actresses, but the commission is of the opinion that the law does apply, but there has been considerable controversy over this point and as a result an opinion has been asked from the attorney general upon this phase of the question. It is said that the telephone companies have already complied with the law, but the railroads maintain that their women employes who act as station agents come under a federal act passed by congress in March, 1907, which allows women to work in railway stations for nine hours continuously day and night. The limiting of the hours of women has already made a vast difference in the lives of thousands of women workers. The commissioner of labor has announced that labor laws will be strictly enforced, and has requested all labor organizations to report all violations coming under their observation.

RIGHT TO ORGANIZE CONCEDED.

Ottawa, Can., Dec. 20.—Early in September an attempt was made to organize the harness makers of this city under the legitimate international union. There appeared no difficulties at first in forming a strong organization, but one of the larger firms immediately took a hostile position and insisted that its employes sign an agreement which had been drawn by the firm that bound the employes not to join any labor organization or participate in any strike, with numerous other provisions which were extremely obnoxious. The matter was taken up by the Ottawa Central Body and in turn by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. Negotiations were opened agreeable to action taken by the Trades and Labor Congress with the end in view of annulling the agreement mentioned. Being unsuccessful in this, the assistance of the Minister of Labor was enlisted, with the result that the company capitulated, the department being in receipt of letters from the company to the effect that the agreement has been unconditionally withdrawn, and that the employes are absolutely free to form an organization if they so desire.

CITIZENS' ALLIANCE BUSY.

Calumet, Mich., Dec. 20.—The Citizens' Alliance, recently formed in this district for the purpose of "driving the striking copper miners back into the mines," is actively engaged in an effort to foment trouble. While objection has been offered against the miners parading the streets, the Citizens' Alliance, with a cavalcade of strike-breakers, marched through the towns in the district exhibiting firearms and otherwise indicating that "it is spoiling for a fight." The demonstration of force did not draw the strikers into a controversy, and the "law and order" display was not productive of the results the Alliance had hoped for. The mine operators have made herculean efforts to have martial law declared in the Keweenaw County copper district, but the governor has put his stamp of disapproval on this plan. The strike continues effective.

GET COMPENSATION LAW.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 20.—The New York State Federation of Labor, after a long fight, extending over a period of years, has at last been successful in securing the enactment by the New York State Legislature of a compulsory workmen's compensation law. It will become effective on January 1, 1914. The State Federation at the last election was responsible for the defeat of fifty-five hostile members of the State legislature who were candidates for re-election. This fact had a most salutary effect and the legislature, under authority conferred by the people of the State, in the shape of a constitutional amendment, carried out the wishes of a large majority of the people by adopting a compulsory compensation law.

JOB WILL BE FAIR.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 20.—It was believed for a considerable length of time that the new state capitol, which is to be constructed at Jefferson City, would be built by non-union labor. The building trades of the state were exceedingly active in an effort to prevent this contingency. It is now stated that the contract for this large piece of construction work has been awarded to John Gill and Sons, of Cleveland, Ohio. It is asserted that this firm will construct the capitol building with union labor, and trade unionists of Missouri are gratified on account of the turn which affairs have taken.

TENNESSEE STATE FEDERATION.

Knoxville, Dec. 20.—The Tennessee State Federation of Labor will convene in this city on Monday, January 5. This will be the seventeenth annual convention and the call states that the "years of persistent labor of the Tennessee Federation are just beginning to bear fruit. More has been accomplished in the last year than the combined efforts of previous years." The State Federation is in better shape in every way than ever before and an enthusiastic convention is looked for.

ENFORCES CHILD LABOR LAW.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 20.—A vigorous enforcement of the Child Labor Law, enacted by the last legislature, is being continued in this city. Proprietors of restaurants, hotels, clubs and department stores have been notified by representatives of the Bureau of State Factory Inspection that all women under twenty years must cease work at 9 o'clock at night and that provisions relating to boys must be closely followed or prosecutions will be commenced immediately. A number of merchants have been fined and girls employed at the theaters below the lawful age have been sent home.

GREAT TOWN, THIS.

Indianapolis, Dec. 20.—Charles Dwelle, an elevator operator, who has been actively engaged in an effort to organize the elevator conductors, was arrested recently and held in $1,000 bond. The only charge made was that the elevator operator had endeavored to get another elevator operator in one of the buildings to join the union. This is according to the Indianapolis program, and if continued will finally result in one of the best organized cities in the country.

SECESSION PRESIDENT QUITS.

Washington, Dec. 20.—It is announced that General President Reid, of the Reid-Murphy secession faction of the Electrical Workers, has resigned.

SENSIBLE

A SETTLEMENT IS PREDICTED

Electrical Workers of Pacific Coast Want Unity.

BOTH SIDES SIGN AGREEMENT

Long Controversy in a Fair Way to Be Adjusted in the Near Future.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The Seattle Convention of the American Federation of Labor directed President Gompers and such other members of the Executive Council as would be able to accompany him to proceed to San Francisco for the purpose of urging and encouraging unity on the part of those directly involved in the present situation among the electrical workers and all other organizations concerned in the differences existing with the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. In accordance with these instructions, President Gompers, Vice Presidents Mitchell, Valentine, Hayes, and Treasurer Lennon participated in a conference held with interested members in San Francisco. This conference resulted in the concluding of an agreement whereby it is hoped, the electrical workers' internal controversy will be finally settled. In substance, the agreement provides that the unaffiliated organization shall take a referendum vote on the question of affiliating with the recognized International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

It is also provided that affiliation shall commence with the payment of the February, 1914, per capita tax and the time limit for making the payment and affiliation is set for March 31, 1914. The system of District Councils, as is in operation on the Pacific coast, is to be maintained until such time as a change is ordered by a referendum vote, or by a general or special convention of the International Brotherhood. The International Brotherhood, however, agrees that there shall be expended within the jurisdiction of the District Councils the sum of 18 cents per member per month for organizing purposes, the present salaried officers of the Pacific District Council to be appointed organizers by the International President of the affiliated Brotherhood in so far as the above mentioned funds make it possible. Aside from this provision, the unaffiliated local unions, should they decide to affiliate, are to comply with the constitution and bylaws of the affiliated organization.

The unaffiliated organization was represented in the conference by J. Mergenthaler, President of the Pacific District Council; M. J. Sullivan, member Local No. 151, and C. E. Elmore, a member of Local No. 537, while the affiliated Brotherhood was represented by P. A. Clifford, member of Local No. 6, A. E. Elken and W. H. Muny, also members of No. 6. Aside from this the agreement was approved and recommended for adoption by Eugene E. Smith, General Vice President of the Third District, and John S. Wilson, Secretary-Treasurer of the Pacific District Council, representing the unaffiliated electrical workers, while F. J. McNulty, International President, Charles P. Ford, International Secretary, and J. W. McIntyre, International Organizer, of the affiliated Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, joined in the approval and recommendation. The conference committee signing the report was Samuel Gompers, President of the A. F. of L., and Joseph F. Valentine, Vice President. It is understood that it is practically a foregone conclusion that the referendum vote to be taken by the unaffiliated local unions will be favorable to the acceptance of the plan drawn up by the conference committee. This will practically conclude the controversy which has been on since prior to the Denver Convention of the A. F. of L. and will be welcomed by not only the electrical workers themselves, but by the General Labor Movement as well.

BUYS ANOTHER LINE.

San Francisco, Dec. 20.—This city acquired its second street railway when it took over the Union Street Line from the Presidio and Ferries Railway Company. The voters sanctioned the purchasing of this line at a recent election.

A WARNING.

Omaha, Nebr., Dec. 20.—The Omaha Building Trades Council has issued a public letter in which it informs the organized labor movement that the scheme now being employed for the alleged purpose of securing funds to build a labor temple is not legitimate. The circular being sent out states that the American Security Company, a real estate concern, is behind this deal, and that the company is paying all expenses in promoting the labor temple proposition, and that all donors are directed to send donations to its office. The appeal for donations being sent out by the American Security Company, according to the circular, states that it is "to aid us in the completion of our new Labor Temple, which we had under way when the terrible cyclone swept over our city." The Building Trades circular further says: "You would naturally conclude from this that building operations had already been started, or at least that a payment had been made upon a lot. Such is not the case. No location has been chosen, and only a sketch of the proposed building has been gotten out up to this time. The above statement seems to us to be a deliberate attempt to misrepresent the facts, and should be condemned by all right-thinking men." The concluding paragraph of the circular says: "Up to this time not one of the local labor bodies has contributed one cent to the new labor temple proposition," and it asserted "that the local resources should first of all be exhausted before appealing for outside aid. Our only desire is to protect the trade unionists against being victimized. We would expect the same protection from you if our positions were reversed. The labor movement and our good name is more to us than the private profit of any individual or group."

TRAINMEN'S GRIEVANCES AIRED.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 20.—The first week of the conference between officials of the Sunset Central Lines and national officers and general committeemen of the operating organizations of the road closed with but little more than one-third of the sixty-seven grievances under consideration being presented. It is stated that more time has been consumed in the presentation of the new working conditions proposed by the railroad brotherhoods than in the consideration of the personal grievances applying to cases in which men have been dismissed from service, for whom reinstatement is being sought, and in cases of overtime claimed and other similar cases, as there are many details of the working conditions to be gone over. A number of the conditions proposed for the Sunset Central Lines are similar to those in operation upon other lines in various parts of the country. There are also a number of working conditions proposed by the joint committee to meet new conditions on the road, such as rates of pay for service on certain new classes of engines. So far there has been no question which has appeared as a bar to effect a final and mutually satisfactory adjustment of the difficulty.

AFTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 20.—Owing to the laying off of a large number of men in this city the Central Labor Union has addressed a communication to the Chamber of Commerce, which, in part, says: "At present, owing to the extent to which work has been suspended and the number of men employed reduced, those of us who are thus dependent and affected are liable to hardship and even privation. We, therefore, appeal to you as being in charge and far more familiar with the internal affairs of these industrial and mercantile institutions than we are, to tell us what is the matter and what can be done." There was included a list of questions which the Chamber of Commerce was asked to reply. It is understood that as a result of this letter a conference will soon be held between representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the Central Body.

USE OF LEISURE TIME.

Cleveland, Dec. 20.—Rev. H. R. Cooley, of this city, who has been appointed a director in the department of public welfare, has this to say with reference to the leisure hours of the people: "The hours of leisure are growing. The eight-hour work system has increased the period of leisure and the cities must face the problem of furnishing recreation for the people. It is a big problem affecting not only our city but future civilization as well. The people will learn to appreciate the immensity of the problem and the need of giving it recognition just as the problem of education is being given recognition. Departments of education and recreation should go hand in hand. The two are inseparable in a way. The libraries, schools, and recreation centers should operate as one."

GETS $3,500 AWARD.

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 20.—James Fry, of Worden, fourteen miles North of Edwardsville, has been given the full amount asked for in his proceedings against the Kerns-Donnewald Coal Company by a board of arbitration under the Illinois workmen's compensation act, and will receive $3,500 unless the award is revoked. Fry was injured in a mine by a prop striking him on the head. The injury did not appear at first to be serious and he returned to work. A month later, however, he was stricken with paralysis and he was removed to a hospital, where it was discovered that his skull had been fractured. Then followed the petition in the Circuit Court, requesting a settlement under the compensation act.

ACTIVE FOR LABOR TEMPLE.

Toledo, Dec. 20.—The Central Body has appointed a committee to push the project of raising funds for the purpose of constructing a labor temple. The committee will thoroughly canvass the local organizations and determine the advisability and possibilities of carrying out the generally expressed desire that the unions should be provided with a home of their own. It is contemplated that a large mass meeting of all the labor unions will be held some time in January, at which time the subject will be thoroughly discussed and definite action determined on.

FAVOR SMITH-LEVER BILL.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The Senate Committee on Agriculture by unanimous vote, has ordered a favorable report to the Senate on the Smith-Lever Bill for federal aid in Agricultural extension work. The House Committee on Agriculture has also favorably reported the agriculture extension bill of Representative Lever. These measures provide for extending the scientific discoveries and practical methods of the Department of Agriculture into every district of the United States.

FEEDERS GET BIG RAISE.

Baltimore, Dec. 20.—After six months or more of agitation the men employed in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company's pressroom, all of whom are members of the Press Feeders and Assistants' Union, have succeeded in obtaining wage increases ranging from 6 per cent to 25 per cent. This local union has shown a splendid increase in membership during the last year, and it is proposed to conduct a campaign from now on that will not end until every nonunion feeder or pressman is a member of the organization.

ANOTHER LABOR TEMPLE.

Danville, Ill., Dec. 20.—Imbued by the general activity throughout the country in the agitation for the building of labor temples, the Danville central body has taken this matter up, and plans and specifications are being prepared for the erection of a labor temple in this city. It is believed that practically every organization in the city will perform its part in assisting to raise the funds necessary to carry out this project.

MINNESOTA WAGE COMMISSION.

St. Paul, Dec. 20.—The Minnesota Wage Commission probably will fix the minimum wage for girls at not less than $8.50 a week. From about fifty responses received by the commission, relative to wages and working conditions, it was shown that wages ranged from $3 a week up to $16. Most of the responses, however, show that the girls work for from $5 to $6 a week.

REPORT SAFETY BILL.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The House Labor Committee has favorably reported the Bureau of Safety bill.

INTERESTING DOCUMENT.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The Vice President of the United States, Hon. Thomas R. Marshall, and also President of the United States Senate, recently presented to the Senate a letter from Hon. Henry W. Blair, former United States Senator from New Hampshire, and asked that this letter, together with an accompanying communication, be printed as a Senate document. The subject of the letter was school statistics. The document is Number 224 and can be secured by addressing any Senator. The document contains a letter addressed to Mr. Blair by Alex Summers, statistician of the Bureau of Education, and contains a table of actual expenses of all of the states in the union for primary mental training, this not including the high schools. It is stated that the educators of the country agree that $28 per capita is the least annual expenditure which will give the American child a good—not the best—common school education. It is shown in the table of expenditures, that the average amount of money expended by the states totals $446,726,929, while if $28 per capita had been expended, the least amount which the educators say will provide a common school education, there should have been expended $692,875,664. It is a valuable document and should be in the possession of those who are interested in the expenditures made for education.

LABOR'S ENEMY DEFEATED.

Holyoke, Dec. 20.—The organized labor movement in this city has been antagonized by Mayor White during his incumbency. This official refused to enforce laws in the interest of labor, and as a result a campaign was made against Mayor White for the purpose of administering to him a rebuke that he will not soon forget. In the election which occurred recently that rebuke was administered and Mayor White has been relegated to private life. Mayor White had refused to enforce the provisions of contracts that call for an eight-hour day on public work, and his general attitude was that of antagonism toward organized labor. He bid for the opposition of the organized labor movement and he received it in such large quantities as to defeat him by a large majority. Organized labor is exceedingly proud of the result to which it largely contributed.

LOW WAGES IN LAUNDRIES.

Everett, Wash., Dec. 20.—The laundry girls in this city receive less than those employed in any other city of its size in the state. This is the finding of the State Welfare Commission, recently in session here, and determined by the report of the survey of wages paid women and girls employed in laundries of this state. In Everett half of the laundry working girls reported get less than $7 per week, while nearly three-fourths get less than $8. Approximately 81 per cent of those reported work over five days a week and only 39 per cent are reported as working the full six days. Over 10 per cent of those reported receive less than $7 a week, 39 per cent receive less than $8 per week, 61 per cent receive less than $9 per week, 72 per cent receive less than $10 per week, and 83.7 per cent receive less than $11 per week.

SETTLE NORWICH STRIKE.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 20.—What seemed to indicate a long and protracted strike turned out to be a comparatively short one in Norwich, Conn., when more than 200 Garment Workers struck for the purpose of putting into effect a new wage schedule. The president of the local union of Garment Workers in this city became interested and went to Norwich and offered his services to the union there. In a comparatively short time he was successful in signing up two of the largest shops employing nearly 50 per cent of the employes and started two more on the way, which finally capitulated. It will only be a matter of a few days until all of the Garment Workers will be back to work under the new scale.

NAVAL CONSTRUCTION.

Washington, Dec. 20.—"There is now greater value of new ship building works in progress and authorized at navy yards than ever before in the history of the navy," says the chief naval constructor in his annual report. At the New York Navy Yard there are the battleships New York and No. 39 (no name yet assigned), and at Mare Island, Cal., two river gunboats and two fuel ships are now under construction. For eighteen months at least the navy yards at New York and Mare Island, which are the only government yards equipped for expeditious and economical ship building, will be taxed to their maximum capacity unless their facilities are increased.

URGE BARTLETT BILL.

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Gompers appeared before the House Judiciary Committee on December 16 for the purpose of urging the committee to take early action on the Bartlett Bill. This bill provides against the issuance of injunctions in labor disputes and also amends the Sherman Anti-Trust Law excluding the labor organizations and farmers' associations from operation under that statute. The Bartlett Bill is now in the hands of a subcommittee and from information which has been secured it is believed that a favorable report upon this bill will be made to the House in the not distant future.

CARPENTERS' STRIKE SETTLED.

Pittston, Pa., Dec. 20.—The Carpenters' strike inaugurated last April, owing to the refusal of the employers to sign the trade rules then presented, has been declared off, the contractors then refusing to sign having done so. The minimum rate provided for in the new rules is $3.20 for an eight-hour day. There are only a few very small contractors remaining that have not signed, but they are inconsequential.

BOX FACTORY GIRLS STRIKE.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 20.—Demanding an increase in wages the young women employed by a large box factory here have quit work. The scale was $4.50 for making 100 paper boxes, which required the labor of about a week, and their demand was that their scale be increased to at least $6.50 for 100 boxes. The prospects are that a settlement will soon be reached.

OLD-AGE PENSION FUND.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Senator Owen has introduced in the Senate a bill for an old age pension fund which would put the National Savings Banks in competition with the mutual savings insurance companies. It would authorize the postal savings banks to receive and administer savings paid in by citizens, the dues or premiums to entitle depositors to participate in the co-operative system of life annuities.

INVESTIGATION PUTRID.

Indianapolis, Dec. 20.—The investiga[tion] now being conducted by the public serv[ice] commission into the controversy betw[een] the Indianapolis Traction and Termi[nal] Company, which resulted in a strike, [is] bringing to light some nefarious practi[ces] of the company. It is bringing out m[any] facts relative to the policy adopted by [the] Traction Company to defeat the org[ani]zation of its employees. One of the st[artl]ing features of this investigation [was] the testimony of Mrs. Ethel Dow[...]. According to the testimony adduced, [the] woman was employed by the Tract[ion] Company not only as a spotter or s[...] but received instructions to seek [the] acquaintance and society of officials w[ho] were conducting the organizing campa[ign] and who later conducted the strike. T[he] woman testified, among other things, t[hat] she was directed to meet Thorpe, an [or]ganizer, take him to a wine room, [if] possible, meet him in a room and [get] him in a compromising position and h[ave] him arrested and also get him into[xi]cated, if possible. She also testified t[hat] money was furnished her to carry [out] these plans. While this story has b[een] told before, yet the evidence coming fr[om] the woman employed to carry on t[he] character of work corroborates the form[er] story. It also indicates the length [to] which these public service corporatio[ns] will go in an effort to prevent the [or]ganizing of their employees, as well [as] to destroy the organizations that are [al]ready in existence. So far during t[he] investigation there has come out m[any] facts which are a revelation to the p[eo]ple of this city.

TRAINS RUN TOO FAST.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The Interst[ate] Commerce Commission, in the opinion [of] H. W. Belknap, chief inspector for [the] commission, should have the right [to] regulate the speed of trains. The ch[ief] inspector made this assertion before [a] house committee recently, and added t[hat] the strain on engineers in the operat[ion] of high speed trains was largely resp[on]sible for wrecks. Many of the men [on] the engines, he stated, had broken do[wn] early in life because of the tense co[m]petition for speed, and further asser[ted] that block signals would not prevent [ac]cidents in the absence of adequate re[gu]lations. "You are not going to stop [ac]cidents unless you check the speed [of] trains. There are no speedometers [on] trains and we do not know how f[ast] some of them are operated if they [are] trying to make up time. On poor pie[ces] of roadbed, when a speed of not mo[re] than fifteen miles an hour is justified, [it] is probable that many trains are r[un] at a rate of fifty and sixty miles an ho[ur] and here is where the worst dan[ger] comes in." In answer to a question as [to] whether he believed that the railroa[ds] would have to be forced to adopt pr[o]tective measures, Mr. Belknap said: [I] think our experience will be the same [as] in the case of air brakes and automa[tic] couplers. It required a law to com[pel] the railroads to adopt these safety d[e]vices."

NONUNION MEN STRIKE.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 20.—The no[n]union Carpenters employed on the Bro[ad]way Viaduct have gone on strike for [an] increase in wages. They were getti[ng] $3 a day for ten hours, but when th[ey] quit the contractor offered them 40 ce[nts] and 45 cents an hour to return, but th[ey] refused to go back unless they were a[s]sured that they would receive the "unio[n] scale of 55 cents an hour and were al[so] granted an eight-hour day. This stri[ke] is exceedingly unique and took the wi[nd] out of the unfair contractors. The no[n]union men are picketing the job in ord[er] to keep other nonunion men from ta[k]ing their places, but there has been not[h]ing so far for these pickets to do. [It] would be desirable to know whether the[se] nonunion men, without organization, [of] course, would come under the operati[on] of the Sherman Anti-trust Law.

VIOLATING AGE-LIMIT LAW.

Erie, Pa., Dec. 20.—A number of arres[ts] have been made at the instance of th[e] State Department of Labor against th[e] proprietors of cigarmaking establish[]ments, the Erie Saw Company, the He[r]ald Box Company, and the Jarecki Manu[]facturing Company, for violation of th[e] law which says "that no minor under th[e] age of sixteen years shall be employe[d] in or about or for any establishment o[r] industry named in sections 3 and 4 o[f] this act, unless the employer of sai[d] minor procures and keeps two complet[e] lists of all minors under the age of six[]teen employed in or for his or her es[]tablishment on file." The violators of th[e] above law pleaded guilty and were fine[d] $15 and costs. This is the manner of con[]ducting enterprises in Erie and gives [a] good idea of the disregard which the in[]dustrial establishments of this city hav[e] for the welfare of their employes.

HEARINGS ON SEAMEN'S BILL.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The House Com[]mittee on Merchant, Marine and Fish[]eries is conducting a hearing on th[e] La Follette Seamen's Bill, which re[]cently passed the Senate. The shippin[g] interests have a large number of thei[r] representatives on the ground and ar[e] waging a most determined fight agains[t] the passage of this bill. A great many protests against the measure have been filed with the committee and likewise has there been many letters of appro[]val of the bill sent in. The indications are that the bill, either in its original form or amended, will be reported ou[t] of the committee shortly after the firs[t] of the coming year.

FOR FORWARD MOVEMENT.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 20.—At the last meeting of the Trades Council a motion was adopted providing for a labor movement similar to the one held a year ago. Meetings are to be held throughout the city and speakers from international and local unions will be heard. While there will be representatives from the outside, the great bulk of the work will be done by members of the local unions. It has been scheduled to hold fifteen open meetings and the committee in charge of arrangements is to begin the work immediately.

NEWSPAPERS TO SUSPEND.

Washington, Dec. 20.—According to a cablegram recently received, British newspapers have reached a unanimous agreement to suspend publication on Christmas Day. A majority of the papers tried the plan last Christmas, but this year all of the papers, including the London Times, will close up shop entirely. The agreement applies to both morning and afternoon papers.

HAS NEW HOME.

Springfield, Ohio, Dec. 20.—The Labor organizations in this city are now located in their new home, practically the entire movement being housed under one roof. In addition the local labor paper has also moved to the new labor temple. Much enthusiasm has been displayed by the various organizations over the new quarters.